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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/555,529      | 07/24/2000  | PATRICIA KANNOUCHE   | 192863US0PCT        | 6934             |

7590 09/09/2003

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EXAMINER

JOHANNSEN, DIANA B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1634

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 1634

1. The reply filed on June 6, 2003 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): some of the claims identified as reading on the elected species do not appear to read on those species. In particular, claim 75 as written appears to require a molecule comprising a non-elected sequence, SEQ ID NO: 4. Claim 78 requires SEQ ID Nos 16 and 17, which are not indicated as being an elected primer pair. Accordingly, clarification is required. Specifically, Applicant is requested to clarify the election (i.e., was it Applicant's intent to elect SEQ ID NO: 16 and 17?), to amend the claims appropriately or to otherwise clarify how the recited claims read on the elected primer pairs. See 37 CFR 1.111.

2. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Diana B. Johannsen whose telephone number is 703/305-0761. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30 am-4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, W. Gary Jones can be reached at 703/308-1152. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703/308-0196.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diana B. Johannsen", followed by a long, sweeping horizontal flourish.

Diana B. Johannsen  
September 8, 2003